



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

**Committee Bill No. 53**

LCO No. 3550

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:  
(JUD)

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FIREARM BALLISTIC IDENTIFICATION  
DATA BANK FOR ALL NEW HANDGUNS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General  
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2003*) (a) For the purposes of this  
2 act: (1) "Manufacturer" means any person, firm or corporation  
3 possessing a valid federal license that permits such person, firm or  
4 corporation to engage in the business of manufacturing firearms or  
5 ammunition therefor for the purpose of sale or distribution, (2)  
6 "projectile" means that part of ammunition for a pistol or revolver that  
7 is, by means of an explosion, expelled through the barrel of a pistol or  
8 revolver, and (3) "shell casing" means that part of ammunition for a  
9 pistol or revolver that contains the primer and propellant powder to  
10 discharge the projectile.

11 (b) On and after January 1, 2005, no manufacturer shall sell, deliver  
12 or otherwise transfer a new pistol or revolver to any person, firm or  
13 corporation holding a permit to sell at retail pistols and revolvers  
14 issued pursuant to subsection (a) of section 29-28 of the general  
15 statutes unless such manufacturer has, in accordance with regulations  
16 adopted by the Commissioner of Public Safety pursuant to subsection

17 (h) of this section, included in the package with such pistol or revolver  
18 a separate sealed container that contains (1) a projectile discharged  
19 from such pistol or revolver, (2) a shell casing of a projectile discharged  
20 from such pistol or revolver, and (3) additional information that  
21 identifies such pistol or revolver, projectile and shell casing as may be  
22 required by such regulations.

23 (c) On and after January 1, 2005, no person, firm or corporation  
24 holding a permit to sell at retail pistols and revolvers issued pursuant  
25 to subsection (a) of section 29-28 of the general statutes shall sell,  
26 deliver or otherwise transfer any new pistol or revolver unless such  
27 person, firm or corporation has received a separate sealed container  
28 with respect to such pistol or revolver from the manufacturer of such  
29 pistol or revolver pursuant to subsection (b) of this section or obtained  
30 a substitute sealed container pursuant to subsection (e) of this section.

31 (d) Not later than ten days after such sale, delivery or other transfer,  
32 such person, firm or corporation shall submit to the commissioner the  
33 sealed container with respect to such pistol or revolver that was  
34 received from the manufacturer of such pistol or revolver pursuant to  
35 subsection (b) of this section or obtained pursuant to subsection (e) of  
36 this section.

37 (e) If any such person, firm or corporation fails to receive a separate  
38 sealed container with respect to a pistol or revolver from a  
39 manufacturer pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, such person,  
40 firm or corporation shall notify the Commissioner of Public Safety of  
41 such noncompliance and the commissioner shall specify an alternative  
42 procedure for such person, firm or corporation to obtain a substitute  
43 sealed container containing a projectile, shell casing and additional  
44 identifying information with respect to such pistol or revolver.

45 (f) The Commissioner of Public Safety shall cause the projectile and  
46 shell casing contained in each container submitted pursuant to this  
47 section to be imaged and, together with the additional identifying  
48 information contained in such container, to be entered into the

49 interstate firearm ballistic identification data bank established under  
50 section 3 of this act.

51 (g) Any person, firm or corporation that violates the provisions of  
52 subsection (b), (c) or (d) of this section shall be guilty of a class B  
53 misdemeanor for a first offense, a class A misdemeanor for a second  
54 offense and a class D felony for any subsequent offense, and the permit  
55 to sell at retail pistols and revolvers issued pursuant to subsection (a)  
56 of section 29-28 of the general statutes of any person, firm or  
57 corporation that violates subsection (c) or (d) of this section shall be  
58 revoked.

59 (h) The Commissioner of Public Safety shall adopt regulations, in  
60 accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the  
61 provisions of this section.

62 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2003*) (a) On and after January 1, 2005,  
63 no person shall modify the barrel, firing pin or any other part of a  
64 pistol or revolver for the purpose of altering the markings that are  
65 made on the projectile or shell casing when such projectile or shell  
66 casing is discharged or ejected from the pistol or revolver.

67 (b) Any person who violates the provisions of this section shall be  
68 fined not more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than  
69 five years, or both.

70 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2003*) (a) The Commissioner of Public  
71 Safety shall enter into an agreement with one or more states for the  
72 acquisition, installation and operation of technology for the imaging,  
73 analysis and comparison of projectiles and shell casings and for the  
74 establishment and maintenance of an interstate firearm ballistic  
75 identification data bank for the joint use by law enforcement agencies  
76 of those states entering into such agreement.

77 (b) In the event that the Commissioner of Public Safety has not  
78 entered into any such agreement by February 1, 2004, the

79 commissioner shall submit to the General Assembly the  
80 commissioner's recommendation for a revised implementation date for  
81 sections 1 and 2 of this act.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2003</i>

**Statement of Purpose:**

To require the collection of ballistic information from all new handguns sold in the state and the entry of such information into a firearms ballistic identification data bank.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*

Co-Sponsors: SEN. SULLIVAN, 5th Dist.; SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.  
REP. O'BRIEN, 24th Dist.

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